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Letter dated 10 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach herewith a press statement (see annex) issued by the spokesperson of the Sudanese Armed Forces in response to the latest unwarranted accusations raised by the spokesperson of the South Sudanese army (Sudan People's Liberation Army) accusing the Sudanese Armed Forces of conducting unusual movements, deployment and incursions along the borders. To the contrary, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan has been monitoring with concern the ongoing tragic fighting between our brothers in South Sudan and exerting tireless efforts within the Intergovernmental Authority on Development mediation team seeking an immediate end to the current crisis in South Sudan. However, we were caught by surprise by these implausible remarks, which lack credibility and contradict the positive momentum that was reinforced by the outcome of the latest visit of H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit to the Sudan and the cordial and fruitful meeting with President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir.

The attached statement confirmed, in no uncertain terms, that the Sudanese Armed Forces did not carry out any hostile movements or deployments along the borders, and reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan to fully implement the cooperation agreements between the two countries, namely, the security agreements that include the definition of the zero line for the Safe Demilitarization Border Zone and the operationalization of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism.

Having brought this to your kind attention, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 10 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Statement issued by the official spokesperson of the armed forces

O free compatriots,

The armed forces have been closely following the grave and tragic developments in the conflict being waged by the warring parties in South Sudan. The Sudan has not wavered in either its position regarding South Sudan or its efforts to help that country find a rapid solution to the conflict and establish the foundations of security and stability. The Sudan has also continued to affirm its support for the legitimate authorities of South Sudan.

In view of the above, the armed forces were surprised to learn that the official spokesperson of the South Sudan People's Army and a number of South Sudanese officials had issued statements that contain lies and incredible claims accusing the Sudanese armed forces of engaging in hostile actions along the border between our two countries.

O free compatriots, we affirm the importance of our relationship with South Sudan. We have made no moves towards South Sudan, nor do we seek to commit aggression or enter into war. We have also not massed any troops. The Sudan is greatly desirous of developing relations between the two countries and we await a positive outcome from the most recent visit of His Excellency the President of South Sudan, particularly with regard to the implementation of the cooperation agreements concluded by the two countries. We are waiting for them to fulfil their promises to implement the agreements concerning security arrangements, which are predicated on the demarcation of the zero line, and to open the border crossings and establish joint monitoring mechanisms, which are meant to monitor the progress made in implementing security arrangements along the border and in the interior, so as to ensure that such accusations are no longer exchanged. However, South Sudan has not taken any action to put into effect those mechanisms, nor has it demonstrated any intention of doing so. We are still awaiting the response that they promised they would give us in President Salva Kiir's most recent visit to the Sudan. We shall continue to call for peace and strive for peaceful relations between the two countries, in accordance with the cooperation agreements, the African Union road map and Security Council resolution 2046 (2012).